



News Release

OFFICE OF ATTORNEY GENERAL ALAN WILSON
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

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Columbia Man Arrested on Child Pornography Charges

(COLUMBIA, S.C.) South Carolina Attorney General Alan Wilson announced the arrest of Stephen Thomas Hammond (DOB: 08/7/1965) of Columbia, S.C. on six (6) counts involving the sexual exploitation of minors. The Richland County Sheriff's Department, a member of the Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Task Force, made the arrest.

A referral was received from investigators at the Berkeley County Sheriff's Office (also a member of the ICAC Task Force) that images depicting children engaged in sexual activity had been disseminated from an account traced to Hammond's residence. A search warrant was executed on May 15, 2014 by officers from the Richland County Sheriff's Department.

Hammond was arrested and transported to the Alvin S. Glenn Detention Center. He is charged with six (6) counts of Sexual Exploitation of a Minor second degree (§16-15-405), a felony offense punishable by up to ten (10) years imprisonment on each count. Bond was set at \$25,000.

The case will be prosecuted by the Attorney General's Office.

Attorney General Wilson stressed all defendants are presumed innocent unless and until they are proven guilty in a court of law.

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